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United States Council for International Business

Formerly the United States Council of the
International Chamber of Commerce

Serving American Business as U.S. Affiliate of:

The International Chamber of Commerce
The International Organisation of Employers
The Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD
The ATA Carnet System

January 14, 1983

Mrs. Virginia H. Knauer
Director
U.S. Office of Consumer Affairs
Old Executive Office Building
17th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20521

Dear Mrs. Knauer:

I am contacting you on behalf of the U.S. Council's Committee on Marketing, Advertising and Distribution, to express our strong interest in recent consumer-related initiatives at the OECD, and to arrange a meeting with you upon your return to the office.

The U.S. Council for International Business (annual report enclosed) is an organization dedicated to promoting an international climate conducive to the free flow of trade and investment. It fills this mission by submitting its views to the key intergovernmental organizations through its status as the U.S. arm of three international bodies:

- the International Chamber of Commerce
- the International Organisation of Employers
- the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD.

The Council's Committee on Marketing, Advertising and Distribution has for several years been monitoring international consumer protection developments--the major focus being on relevant U.N. exercises. Utilizing the non-governmental organization (NGO) status which the ICC enjoys with the United Nations, for example, the Council has frequently consulted with the U.N.'s Office of Planning and Coordination in the drafting of the Secretariat report on consumer protection, adopted in 1981, and has sent representatives to the 1981 Bangkok regional consultation on consumer protection. Over the past few months, the Council has provided its views to the Secretariat and State Department on the U.N. consumer protection guidelines currently under preparation.

More recently the Committee has devoted its attention to the activities of the OECD Committee on Consumer Policy. At its last meeting, the Council's Committee expressed concern over the OECD terms of reference/work program and their call for greater monitoring and market transparency--especially in the light of the EEC's movement away from regulatory solutions, as expressed in its Second Five-Year Plan for Consumer Protection.

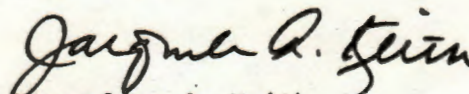
Handwritten notes in red ink:
1/21/83
Mtg set 2P 2/9
in UK's office
intergovernmental
to come

The Council also read with concern the agenda for the January 19-21 meeting of the OECD Consumer Policy Committee, which appears to cover several items--such as consumer protection in the LDCs and the export of hazardous products--which have become the subject of extensive study in other forums.

The Committee would welcome the opportunity to discuss these issues in greater depth with you and to hear your views on the probable direction of OECD activities, in the light of the January meeting of the Consumer Policy Committee. We would like to propose that a delegation of our Committee meet with you upon your return from Paris--perhaps in early February.

If this is agreeable, we shall be contacting your office shortly to arrange a convenient date. In the meantime, should you or your office have any questions, please contact me at the U.S. Council for International Business, (212) 354-4480.

Sincerely,



Jacqueline A. Keith
Director of Program

cc: Charles Cavagnaro

JAK/mjs
Encl.

2/9
mtg

7/

Per Bill Brew, the following will be attending the meeting with VK on Feb 9th:

Mary Ann Blatch
VP, Consumer Affairs, Reader's Digest

Donald L. Guertin
Senior Advisor - International EXXON Corp

Charles Feldberg
Advisor, Health & Safety Issues
CPC Inc.

Edward Stegemann
General Counsel
Meyers, Inc.

Jacqueline Keith
Staff of US Council

Bill Brew



**United States Council for
International Business**

Serving American Business as U.S. Affiliate of:

The International Chamber of Commerce
The International Organisation of Employers
The Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD
The ATA Carnet System

noted
VK

September 1, 1983

Ms. Virginia H. Knauer
Special Adviser to the President
for Consumer Affairs
U.S. Office of Consumer Affairs
1009 Premier Building
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Virginia:

Thank you for your letter of August 19 regarding the U.N. Economic and Social Council's discussions of the draft Guidelines on consumer protection, and for providing the latest version of those Guidelines.

Your report confirms what we had heard from both the ICC's representatives at ECOSOC and Dennis Goodman, the U.S. Delegate with chief responsibility for this topic at the ECOSOC session--namely, that consideration of the Guidelines had been postponed pending General Assembly clarification of procedural matters.

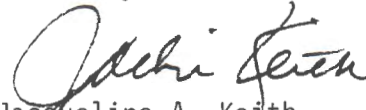
Like yourself, the Council will be closely following General Assembly discussions of this issue this Fall, and will make available to you any information that we receive on the subject. It is our understanding that the Office of Program Planning and Coordination is now compiling a summary of the ECOSOC discussion for submission to the General Assembly, and that a note has been circulated to national governments seeking their additional comments on the Guidelines. We shall be sure to contact Scott Monier with our views on the subject.

Meanwhile, we thought you might have an interest in the ICC's submission to ECOSOC on the Consumer Protection Guidelines. The ICC was represented at the entire ECOSOC session in Geneva, and it is our understanding that our delegates worked closely with Dennis Goodman on several points relating to the Guidelines.

Handwritten initials and scribbles at the bottom left of the page.

Thank you once again for your letter, and we look forward to keeping in touch with you on this and other major international consumer protection developments.

Sincerely,



Jacqueline A. Keith
Director of Program

JAK:bh

Marilyn /
Confirin

1/27

2pm 2/9

for UK / RS / CEE

meeting with US

Council on Int'l Business

Bill Brew
must attend
one

✓

UNITED STATES
OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
Washington, D.C. 20201

UK-FYI

Sept 21

Hold
Sept 21
Hold out 15B
- 29
return

September 2, 1983

TO: BOB STEEVES

FROM: CHUCK CAVAGNARO

Chuck

SUBJECT: U.S. COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

We have received something of an olive branch from the Council.... I received a call today from Jackie Keith, the essence of which was:

- 1.) To extend an invitation to Mrs. Knauer and me to attend a meeting at the International Club on September 21 of the Council's Advertising Committee. Agenda enroute. Meeting includes lunch. I said I'd get back to her after checking it out. (We can work on this one next week after arrival of the agenda.)
- 2.) I inquired as to the status of the Weidenbaum meeting and was surprised to learn it is still "hanging in midair", due primarily because they are trying to get both Ambassador Denman and Amb. Sorzano. Both men have taken the month of August off and have not replied to the invitation. Meeting targeted for Oct. 11 or 12 but may be pushed back to Nov. to get the Ambassadors. Site ~~will be~~ Washington University. Keith to keep me posted. (Seems like a good time to get our oar in to Dennis Goodman.. the first of next week.)

